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Count shows stability for Romulus schools

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Romulus schools breezed past state head count day without many gains, but no losses.

This year, 4,341 children were enrolled in classes at the district, which is up 38 students from 2005. The increases will net the district an additional $277,000 in per pupil funding, said Dick Kruse, a spokesman for the district.

"We're pleased with the way things turned out, even though it's essentially flat," he said. "We estimate that about $150,000 was spent on advertising by other area schools and charter schools to get our students. We did pretty well considering those circumstances."

On Sept. 27, all Michigan schools were required by the state board of education to count each student enrolled in the district. That number – and the figure retained on another count day in October – will determine the level of funding the school gets from the state. Per-pupil funding averages at about $7,300 for Romulus schools.

Enrollment levels have been up and down in Romulus – about 750 students have been lost during the past five years, according to district estimates. The district incurred those losses after charter schools began opening in the area, and other area schools started accepting out-of-district students under the Michigan Schools of Choice program, said Kruse.

One big boost came when choice was introduced at the district.

This year, 50 student openings were created by Merriman and Halecreek elementary schools – two facilities with slightly lower enrollment. Of the 50 slots, 34 were filled mostly by students who live in Romulus, but attend Woodhaven Schools because of district boundaries.

"Introducing that program really helped us out," Kruse said. "Especially when you factor in that we had 57 kids move out of state over the summer."

Traditionally, schools of choice has been an issue for Romulus school officials, who questioned the fairness of recruiting students whose parents live outside the district and don't pay taxes. Former Superintendent Joel Carr, who retired in August, was vehemently opposed to allowing outside enrollees in any facility other than the alternative high school. New Superintendent Carl Weiss said a limited program was necessary.

Weiss was out of town attending a conference and was unavailable for comment about the count.

The overall economic climate in the heavily-industrial Wayne County area has placed an additional burden on districts trying to survive in an age of increased competition. Ken

See **Tax,** page 3

Romulus Community Schools at a glance

History: The Romulus Community School District was formed in 1946 after a state law required several small, rural districts to consolidate.
Superintendent: Carl Weiss
Headquarters: 36540 Grant Road
Enrollment: 4,341 students
Staff: 18 administrators, 240 teachers and 270 support personnel
Funding allowance: $7,300 per student
Budget: $43 million
Facilities: Six kindergarten through fifth grade schools, one sixth through eighth grade building, one ninth through 12th grade high school, and one alternative education facility

Source: Romulus Community Schools

Royal smiles

While Devin Searcy and Ryann Norflett were all smiles while accepting the honor of Romulus Homecoming King and Queen (right), the Eagle cheerleaders (above) had good reason to celebrate at halftime, too. The Romulus Eagle varsity football team, at that point, led the River Rouge Panthers, 21-6. Romulus went on to win the game, 34-12, and is one game away from securing a playoff opportunity (see related story on page 10) with a 5-1 record.

Woman found dead in car

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The body of a 41-year-old woman found in a field near Ecorse and Henry Ruff roads is not believed to be the result of homicide, according to Romulus Police detectives.

Susan Lynn Schuigur, 40, was discovered face down inside a passenger car after a worker in the area discovered her body, said Det. Sgt. Jeff Lazarski of the Romulus police.

"She was lying face down in the back seat of the vehicle," he said. "It appears at this time that she drove (to the site)."

A worker in the area, who reported that he saw a body slumped down in a vehicle in the field, called police at 9:45 a.m. on Sept. 27 said Lazarski.

Evidence technicians who investigated the scene did not notice any visible signs that Schigur had been the victim of violence. However, evidence at the scene that indicated the woman's death could have been drug-related, police said.

See **Death,** page 3

Museum, library host Harvest Fest

Page 2

Feature

College expansion groundbreaking tomorrow

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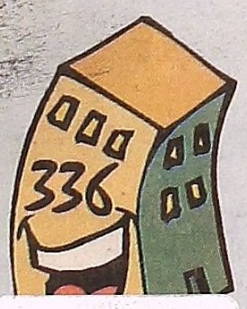
The Scene

School for Scoundrels doesn't make the grade

Page 7



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Time travel
Museum, library sponsor Harvest Fest

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The City of Belleville will be taking people back to the era of old-time activities and bountiful crops during the upcoming Harvest Fest.

Event sponsors—the Fred C. Fischer Library, the Belleville Area Museum and other area businesses and organizations—will host the daylong festival on Oct. 14. This year the event will include free demonstrations, a farmer's market, entertainment by Millie's Polka Band and other ongoing activities.

"It's great for the children and the community," said Library Director Debra Green. "It puts us in touch with our roots as a farm and country town. It's nice that in the age of technology we have these simple, fun activities that are hands-on for the kids. There's also plenty for the adults and the entire family, too."

The Harvest Festival will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the library and the museum on Fourth Street in downtown Belleville. It was started by members of the Friends of the Fred C. Fischer Library to showcase the history of the city and has now grown into an annual collaborative event.

"We've tried to keep this a non-commercial event for the kids. They get a taste of those days with the old-fashioned butter churning, candle dipping and things like that," said Joy Cichewicz, a member of the friends of the library.

"It's neat that so many different groups are involved," said Green. "We're hoping for perfect weather, but even if it rains people should still come out because we have many activities indoors and the ones that aren't can be moved inside."

The library festival portion will feature traditional favorites like soap carving, corn husk dolls, apple peeling, Indian corn jewelry, ink and leaf stamping, candle dipping, butter churning and a petting farm and pony rides. At the museum, corn shelling, lace making, quilting demonstrations, old-fashioned games and paper crafts will take place, too.

Children can also participate in a nickel dig, which will have $75 worth of nickels hidden in a pile of straw and a scavenger hunt that will take them around the festival searching for different clues and answers for prizes.

The Central Business Community and the Belleville Professional Women's club will serve hot dogs, chips, drinks and desserts for visitors to enjoy.

Entertainment by the Belleville Community Band can be heard from noon to 1:30 p.m. and from 2-4 p.m. Dulcimer Player Bobbi Hurst will perform in the museum.

All activities are free, event organizers said.

For more information contact the library at (734) 699-3291 or the museum at (734) 697-1944.

Chorus, band plan spaghetti dinner

The Belleville Community Chorus and the Belleville Community Band will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser from 6-8 p.m. on Nov. 11 at the First United Methodist Church in Belleville. It will generate funds for the two groups.

The new chorus group will host its first concert on Dec. 10 at the church, too. The community chorus has about 30 members in the group, but new members are welcome to join, particularly men.

For more information about the community chorus or the fundraiser, contact member Claudia Roullier at (734) 697-8235 or email claudr@umich.edu.

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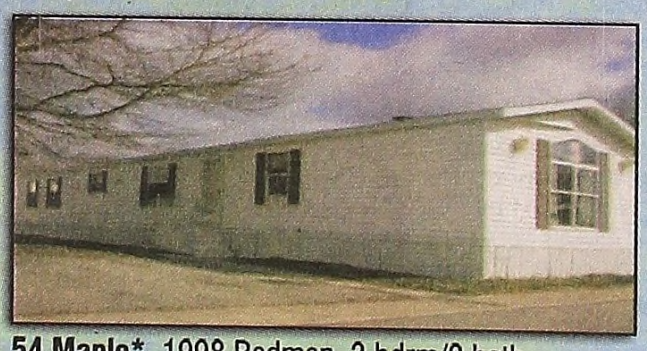
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Packing up

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano continued his school supplies crusade last week when he gave away more than 100 backpacks to students including (first row, left to right): Xavier Moore, Justin Sayer, Ashley Luttman and Shannel DeFoe. The students were joined by a group of city and county officials. They are (second row, left to right): Jill Covell, Jakleen O'Chalek, Tina Brroks Green, John Barden, Felicia Brantley Taylor, Ann Hopper, and Al Hindman, and (third row, left to right): Leroy Burcroff, Tom Dolan, John Juriga, and Shirley Soltez.

Former teacher named 'Woman of Achievement'

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Pat Richards was stunned when it was announced that she was the recipient of the Woman of Achievement Award from the Belleville Business and Professional Woman's (BPW) this year.

"I thought 'why would I get this? You do what you have to do'," Richards said. "I didn't understand."

However, members of the group did.

Recipients of the award are active BPW members, have outstanding dedication, enthusiasm and willingness to help other women and contribute to the community and club, according to Claudia Sendo, chair of the woman of achievement committee.

Sophie Zoller, who nominated Richards for the honor, said she is a woman to be admired.

"She does not give up. She shows great strength, stamina and a positive attitude in her continued recuperation," said Zoller. "She truly is a woman of achievement within the BPW and the community."

Richards, 66, joined the group in 2002 and immediately became active in the organization. She was appointed to the chair of the Reality Store, which helps middle school students learn how to budget in the 'real world' and, was also elected group president two years later. Unfortunately, before Richards could assume the position, she suffered a massive stroke.

"I went into the hospital for a partial knee replacement, but ended up spending the next eight weeks there because of the stroke and another hemorrhage," she said. "I couldn't speak or see and lost most of my memory after that."

The most stressful part, Richards said, was she didn't know the names of her three children. Though, being a retired teacher from the Van Buren Public School District, Wayne County Community College and Washtenaw Community College, she eventually learned to speak, write and read again.

"It's been a long process of course, but I couldn't have done it without my husband," she said. "I never believed in giving up. People told me that after a year, I would be as well as I could be, but that's not true. You keep using what you've got as much as you can.

"You do what you have to do. Whatever it is, do what you can do and don't just sit there and feel sorry for yourself," she added. "I know there are people out there worse off than me."

Now, Richards has a mission to help others by telling about her experience, she said.

"I think my stroke could have been prevented by a taking a Transesophageal Echocardiogram (TEE) test," Richards said. "The test takes pictures of your heart and can tell if there's a hole in it. Nobody is required to do this, though, so that's why I want to get the word out."

Tax

FROM PAGE 1

Meinkiewiz, a school board trustee at the district, said keeping enrollment numbers at its current level is going to be a constant battle.

"It's going to be an ongoing effort just taking into consideration the way the state is doing business," he said. "The state is forcing competition, and that seems to be the way of the future."

Increasing enrollment substantially is a goal of the district, but it's unclear whether the schools of choice program will be expanded or if the district will rely on new construction.

"We haven't discussed expanding school of choice; we really just intended to experiment with that," he said. "We are getting some new subdivisions going up on Tyler and Ecorse Roads, so if we can get some young kids from those, we'll be all set."

The Sept. 27 count was a preliminary number, which will be confirmed again in October.

The final number will then be forwarded to the state, which will disperse funding to districts.

Death

FROM PAGE 1

"Evidence found (in the vehicle) prompted the medical examiner's office to conduct toxicology tests to determine the cause of death," Lazarski said.

An autopsy will be performed on Schigur's body at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office this week. The results of the autopsy – and the toxicology tests – should be available in about eight weeks.

Schigur was a resident of Clawson, which is located about 30 miles away from Romulus, in southern Oakland County. Police said family members have been notified of her death.

Township study 'misleading'

Andrea King
Staff Writer

A recent report by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) illustrates Van Buren Township on the low end of development for 2005, but the study may be misleading.

According to Janet Mocadlo, planning analyst for the SEMCOG data center, the non-residential development study is not a fair assumption because the report is based on voluntary submissions.

"At the time, we only had the figures for a 11,160 square-foot retail/commercial Rite Aid center," she said. "We didn't get a complete list from the community so many projects were missing."

Bryce Kelley, director of planning and economic development for the township, said other construction projects and plans were a retail development on Belleville and Tyler roads, fire station one, a warehouse project on Ecorse Road, an industrial project on Tyler and Haggerty roads, a church on Ecorse Road and an industrial addition on Belleville Road.

"The strength is the inquiries we're seeing," he said. "We've had more non-residential interest than I've ever since I've been here. Housing has slowed down, but the interest has grown in non-residential."

The yearly study, which measures the square feet for buildings under construction in the seven-county region that makes up southeast Michigan in 2005, shows overall the region is doing very well, Mocadlo said.

"We're down a couple million from last year, but we have projects like new casinos going on. The region is staying fairly steady for 2005," she said. "We also had a lot of school and retail projects that helped to keep things moving along.

"Western Wayne County is always a good place for development," Mocadlo added. "This is especially true of communities like Canton Township or Van Buren Township. There are several growing communities out there, so we always see favorable numbers."

Non-residential development was down slightly from last year, however, from 17 million square feet to15 million square feet.

"The slight drop that we've seen this year is more or less what we expected," Mocadlo said. "It's not really very much to worry about."

She also anticipates development to be about the same in 2006 for southeast Michigan.

"From what I've seen so far, we have about 100 projects to be completed," Mocadlo said.

"We need to let the world know things are still going on in southeast Michigan," said Kelley.

News in brief

Parks announces "Halloweekend"

Buses will be leaving the Romulus Parks and Recreation building in droves to spend the "Halloweekend" at Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio.

Partygoers will take off from the recreation facility at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 28. The bus will return at approximately 2 p.m. Participants will be charged $50 per person to take part in the fun.

This year, parks officials are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Cedar Point trips. Because of the cooler weather, this one of the final weekends the amusement park will be open in 2006.

Children ages 14 and up, with parental permission, will be able to take the trip. Children under 14 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

The recreation department provides no direct supervision for this trip. All parties must sign a release of liability form before participating.

Pre-registration is required. The deadline to sign up is Oct. 20. A minimum of 20 available seats are required for the trip.

Interested parties can sign up in person at the Romulus Recreation Department. The recreation center is located at 11189 Shook, and is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information, call (734) 941-8665.

Dads, daughters celebrate Sweetest Day

Romulus Parks and Recreation is hosting a Daddy-Daughter dance to help families celebrate Sweetest Day.

The dance will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Romulus High School gymnasium. During the dance, each girl will receive a flower for each daughter and a free photograph. Pizza, cookies and punch will also be on-hand.

The event is open to Romulus residents only. Cash payment is required, and no tickets will be sold at the door. Tickets cost $12 per couple, and $4 extra for each additional daughter.

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Romulus recreation building at 11189 Shook Road by 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 9.

For more information, call (734) 941-8665.

To submit news articles, please email details to mtippen@journalgroup.com

Opinion

Equal rights for all

A familiar story popped up last week in Van Buren Township.

Residents of one subdivision showed up in force at a board of trustees meeting to protest the construction of a new subdivision near their existing homes.

It's something that developing townships from Northville to Plymouth to Canton have a lot of experience with: walking the line between the rights of the residents and the rights of developers.

It's a tough line to walk, too. Residents want their property values protected and elected officials want to protect their residents—who vote them into office. At the same time, they can't hinder development, as long as it follows the rules. The best they can do is try to control it and ensure what is constructed is the best it can be.

That's what happened with the Victoria Park subdivision. The 220 units proposed in the condominium development are admittedly smaller than the housing stock already there, but we think that's part of the appeal. A community that allows for one size housing runs the risk of turning into a Northville Township, where big beige houses are the norm, not diversity.

It should also be pointed out that the subdivision is proposed for a spot that is already zoned for high-density uses. If the developers had followed that strict zoning, they could put up something just as—if not more so—dense, with fewer amenities and a bland overall appearance. The Planned Residential Development (PRD) gives them—and township officials—more leeway. It allows them to cast aside a traditionally platted subdivision to provide more open space and other positive features. It gives officials a bit more leverage to seek more from the developers, too.

It's never a happy occasion when the digging begins next door. We would all like to draw the line of development after we move into a community. Unfortunately, that's just not practical. Empty fields will eventually get developed, no matter what our real estate agents tell us.

Township officials would be treading dangerous ground if they tried to hinder development. They're much better off trying to diversify it to ensure a stable economic base and to ensure the development will meet the overall standards of the community.

A much-needed question

Officials in the City of Wayne will meet next week in a study session to look at the roads issue.

You can probably guess what that means: a road millage request in the future.

That's hardly a leap in deduction worthy of Sherlock Holmes—members of the city council, as well as many residents, have lamented the quality of the roads since the last millage expired more than 10 years ago. Road improvements have made the top of the city council goals list for the past few years, too, and efforts to improve them have been patchwork at best because of limited funding. In short, more money used to pay for road improvements means less funding for other activities.

It's a testament to how dire the need is that the city would consider asking for a millage next year, which is an election cycle for the Wayne City Council. It's unlikely that the issue will be on the ballot at the same time as the city council seats, though—if it appears at all, it will probably be during the spring, at one of the two other dates set aside for elections, either in February or May.

It's obviously too early to tell whether we would endorse a millage request. There are too many unknowns. That, however, is exactly why we think the issue should indeed be on a ballot sooner rather than later.

See **Question,** page 5

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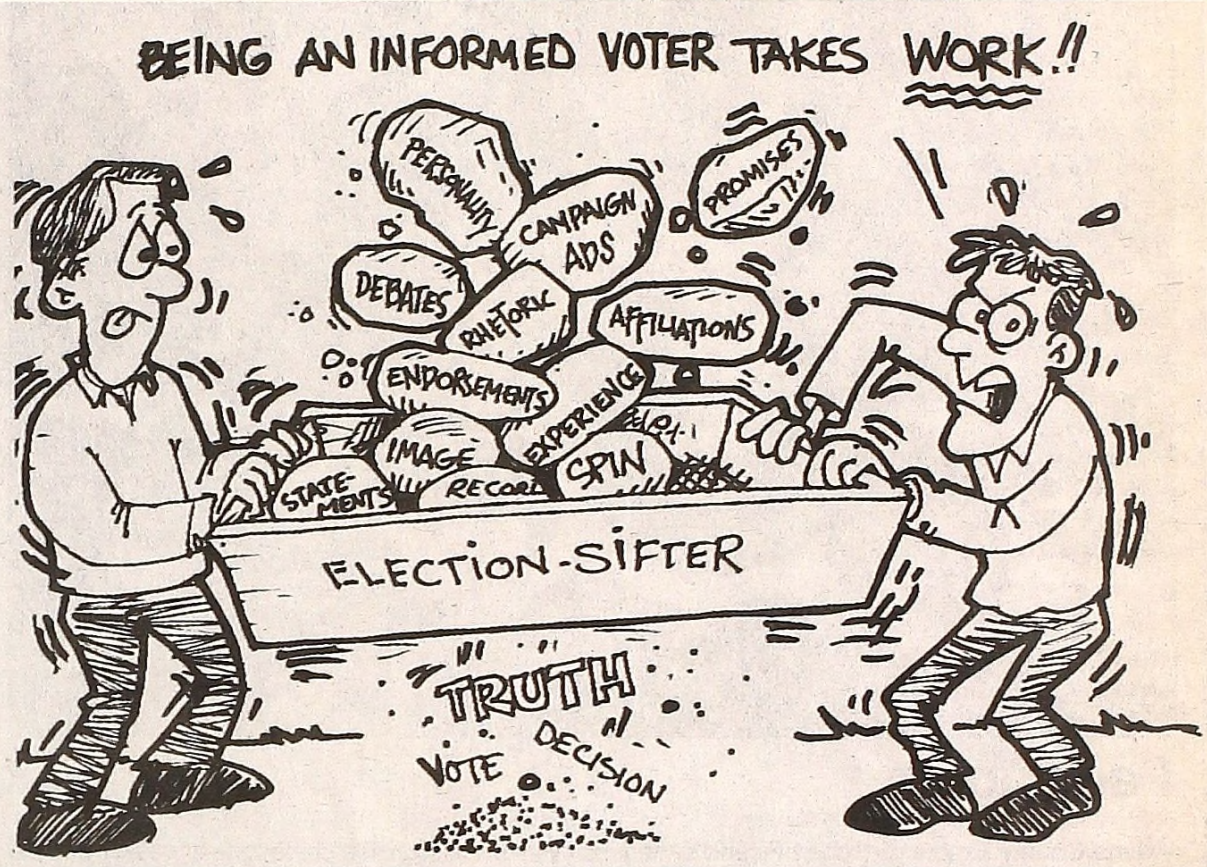
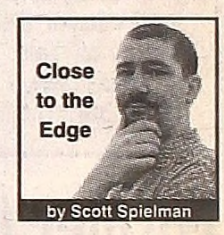


Reality paints an ugly picture



Editor's note: This is the second in a series of columns designed to look at the effect drinking and driving can have on one's life. Education is the goal, along with the hope that people can learn from my mistake and avoid one of their own.

"Cast in this unlikely role, ill-equipped to act—
with insufficient tact;
one must put up barriers to keep oneself intact."
—Rush

"I was just admiring your picture," said Bob Smith, assistant chief of the Plymouth Township Police Department.

"Oh, yeah," I answered, already feeling awkward at returning to the township police department after a long absence.

"Sorry about your mistake," he added.

"Ah. Oh. That picture," I said, a little chagrinned. I had assumed that he was talking about the picture run by my column in the newspaper, not the mug shot from my drunken driving arrest a week earlier. "Well."

He waved me into his office, which was packed up for the then-impending move to the new police headquarters at the new municipal site a mile or so up the road.

I sat down.

He sat down.

We looked at each other.

"It was a nice picture," he said after a few moments had passed.

"Yeah, you believe that? That's the only picture ever taken of me where I've been smiling." It's the truth, too; no Nick Nolte-type mugshot here. My wedding pictures didn't turn out as good as my mug shot. I had thought about asking for a digital version.

"So," Smith said. He leaned back in his chair and looked at me expectantly.

I'm not often at a loss for words, but I was then. I didn't even know how to begin to explain the situation to Smith, who I formerly visited frequently during my days covering Plymouth Township. I know him as a good, competent police officer and a solid brother in the Lord—he's helped start up a church in Brighton and will probably take on a full-time role there when he retires in a few years.

"Well, they say times of great crisis spur great change," he said. "I didn't think you needed to make this change, but..."

"That's just it," I said. "I don't. This was a one-time slip up, a bad choice. This certainly ain't something I go and do every night, or every week or anything."

The elevator silence returned and I realized how ridiculous I must sound, how similar to hundreds of

See **Sober,** page 5

Hey guys, they're counting on you

Just like every other school district, the statewide student count day was critical for Van Buren Public Schools. Fortunately for them, things are looking up in student numbers and in funding.

Last week, school officials counted more than 6,411 students, which is an increase of about 141 students from last year.

Even though the numbers are still preliminary, school officials said the increase is because of new families and developments in the area, particularly in the Savage Elementary School vicinity. It does differ for every elementary within the district, too.

Funding—which hangs on count day to determine how much state money the district will receive—should be about $7,603 in foundation allowance per student this year. However, when compared to other surrounding school districts, Van Buren Public Schools are on the low end of the scale.

The Wayne-Westland school district received about $7,571 in the 2005-2006 school year, while Ypsilanti got $7,599, Northville had $8,225, Romulus $8,825 and Ann Arbor $9,409. The Plymouth-Canton Community schools received $7,200 per student.

Schools also have to compete with area private and charter schools for students, but officials said this year they didn't seem to have an effect on them. The first year a nearby charter school opened, the district did see a dip in attendance, but last year the charter schools got all the students from Van Buren schools they were going to get, according to officials.

Sadly, school districts have also become tied to marketing by luring parents and students into their district with incentives like pizza parties, music players, ice cream socials or even a lunch date with a rap star.

Whatever happened to enticing them with high-test scores and well-trained professionals who teach the young minds?

Van Buren officials said those (advertising) tactics only have limited appeal with a 10-day win-

See **Count,** page 5

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Sober

FROM PAGE 4

other people he may have listened to in the past. Did the fact that we knew each make a difference? I was no longer sure of anything. I suspected that he wondered at my sudden appearance after a few years had passed, though. I couldn't figure out how to tell him that I figured I owed him some kind of explanation.

"You look like you're expecting me to ask you for something," I finally got out. "I'm not here for that. I know..."

"There's nothing anyone can do for you," he finished, putting in concise words what I had suspected all along. "You'll go through the system just like anyone else."

"Yeah, I figured that. I'm screwed."

He shrugged. "This will cost you a lot for a long time, but you'll come out of it OK. It's not the end of the world." I had heard that phrase frequently since the accident, and I was still not sure.

The elevator silence continued as I leafed through the report, shaking my head. This couldn't be right.

I had thought the only thing that tripped me up at the scene were the balance tests—and I'm a clumsy guy anyway. Sure enough, I failed those, but also didn't do very well on the counting nor on the alphabet. I had messed up the alphabet? That was impossible, wasn't it?

Where were all the descriptions of how calm and articulate I was? My speech wasn't slurred—that I recall, anyway. The report said it was in a few spots. The line that I had naively hoped would be in there: 'Suspect was very well-spoken with an outstanding vocabulary,' was not.

"Good lord," I said. "I messed up the alphabet, too?"

"Yeah, you didn't do so good on anything," Smith said. "How much did you have to drink?"

"Well, I didn't think it was that many," I answered. "I sure didn't think I was in that bad of shape." How could I be so far off the mark, though?

Apparently I was. I read through the report, grimacing at the differences between the facts and my recollections. I had told the insurance company the wrong make of car. I even had the intersection wrong.

I shook my head, dumbfounded. This wasn't me. It couldn't be me.

"Wow." I said at last. "I never would've guessed. I honestly thought I was all right to drive. I never would've gotten into my car if I thought I'd be lucky to make it home."

"A lot of people think that," Smith said. "The bottom line is: if you've had more than two drinks in an hour, you're probably over the limit."

The limit. There it was. Everybody knows what it is: .08 here in Michigan will earn you an operating while intoxicated. The penalties jump after .15 and grow exponentially after a second or third ticket.

I knew the limit. I just didn't know what it felt like. Now I did and, pardon the pun, it was a sobering revelation.

Did anyone else realize how little it took? Probably not, I thought, and the inspiration for this series of columns was born.

It was too late for me; my fate was essentially sealed. I'd be hard pressed to hang onto what little I had through this whole ordeal, but maybe I could help other people avoid it. Maybe I could help put the numbers into perspective, and the consequences.

Smith and I talked a little longer; we talked about our kids, organized religion, the future. Gradually the awkwardness went away. I thanked him for the report and left.

Everybody makes mistakes, I told myself. What matters is what you do about it.

Count

FROM PAGE 4

dow.

Students must be enrolled on or before count day and be in attendance all day the school count takes place.

Although last Wednesday was the official day, school districts still have a 10-day window where students can still be accounted for due to absences and other qualified circumstances.

The Van Buren School District will not release final numbers until about Oct. 9. After that, results will move on to the state level where they are due Nov. 15. Schools should then receive foundation allowance payment in December, according to officials.

Let's keep our fingers crossed.

Question

FROM PAGE 4

City officials need to ask the question. The roads aren't going to improve themselves, and the funding the city receives is not going to suddenly increase. In fact issues on the November ballot—particularly one designed to guarantee yearly increases to school funding—may spell fewer funds for the city. They need to know how much money they'll have to make these needed improvements and they'll have that answer whether city voters support it or oppose it.

It's a difficult time to be asking residents for a tax increase, though, and city officials would be advised to remember that. They'll need all their cones in a row, and a solid plan to work with if they have any hope of winning voter approval.

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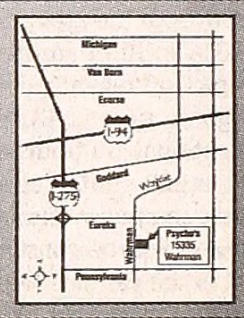

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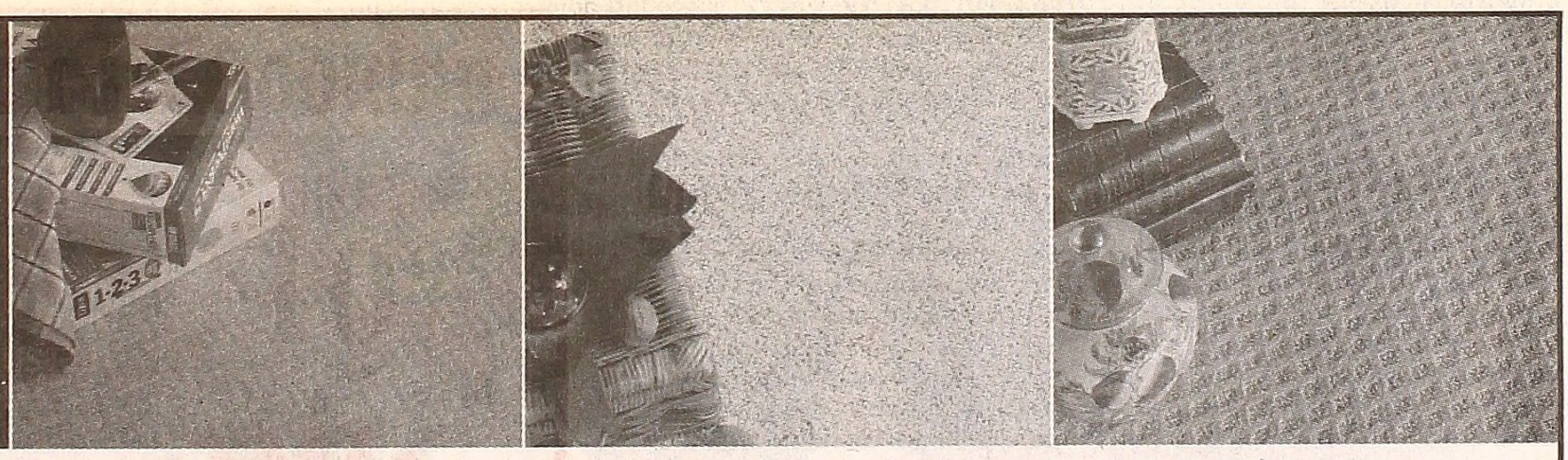
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The $12-14 million addition will be constructed immediately west of the campus to provide the district and area employers with a flexible, high-tech academic environment for employee training and student learning, according to officials.

Ground breaking

College begins $14 million addition

Andrea King
Staff Writer

They're here to stay. And they are dedicated to providing a quality educational opportunity to the community.

That's the message officials at Wayne County Community College District hope to convey at the groundbreaking for a new $12-$14 million addition at the western campus in Belleville tomorrow.

The new 43,143 square-foot Educational Multipurpose Center will feature a 100-seat lecture hall, seminar rooms, computer commons and more. The addition will be constructed immediately west of the campus to provide the district and area employers with a flexible, high-tech academic environment for employee training and student learning, according to the college officials.

"The flexibility of the labs we're putting in to meet the needs of businesses for training, along with the capability to bring those businesses in for the short term as well as others businesses allows us that flexibility," said Patrick McNally, interim campus president of educational affairs. "This helps us establish dedication to the community and let them know we are here to stay."

Students can take advantage of the lecture hall equipped with interactive conferencing capabilities and the six seminar rooms featuring teleconferencing capabilities with complete multi-media resources. The facility will also feature a computer commons lab complex, three flexible technology labs, dining space and a gallery area.

Built at the fastest growing campus of the district, the educational multipurpose center is scheduled to open in December, 2008.

"About four years ago we looked at the different community and area needs and saw that high-tech business related things were necessary. That's what started the ball rolling," said McNally.

"The western campus is now the fastest growing campus out of the five and we think it is in part of the economy and the growth in the Van Buren Township and southern Canton areas. Plus, the work that we've done here in the last few years with new purchases, such as equipment and others, along with word of mouth has helped us to grow."

Chancellor Dr. Curtis Ivery said the western campus has been an extraordinary learning environment for the students.

The new facility will also expand programs such as the Health Science, Criminal Justice, Corrections, Law Enforcement and a new Emergency Response and Safety associate degree program. Those offerings will support the staffing needs of the airport authority and businesses and governmental agencies within western Wayne County, too, officials said.

"In the last three years we've increased enrollment significantly," said McNally. "This semester we broke the 3,000 student mark. This new center with new computer labs and information systems, large group lectures and the multipurpose room will certainly help."

The western campus serves as the center for the delivery of innovative distance leaning through the state and globally. The district also collaborates with hospitals to offer accelerated online programs in Surgical Technology and Surgical First Assistant at the campus, according to WCCCD.

"We're very excited about this project. We have a lot going on here," said Martha Grier, assistant to the chancellor for special programs.

"We're happy to be in Van Buren Township and look forward to continued growth," said McNally.

The 43,143 square-foot multipurpose educational center will feature a 100-seat lecture hall, seminar rooms, computer commons and more as depicted in this artist rendering.

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The Scene

School for Scoundrels

doesn't make the grade

Reviewed By
Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

It might not be his intention but Jon Heder is bringing the lovable slacker character back to the movies.

It may be one moon-boot step and one heavy-breathed line at a time but he's doing it.

We all know Heder as the gapped-mouth, "Liger"-loving *Napoleon Dynamite* from his debut character-named independent 2004 cult hit. Since then he's drifted through *Just Like Heaven* (2005) and *The Benchwarmers* (2006) and voiced Reginald "Skull" Skullinski in this year's *Monster House*.

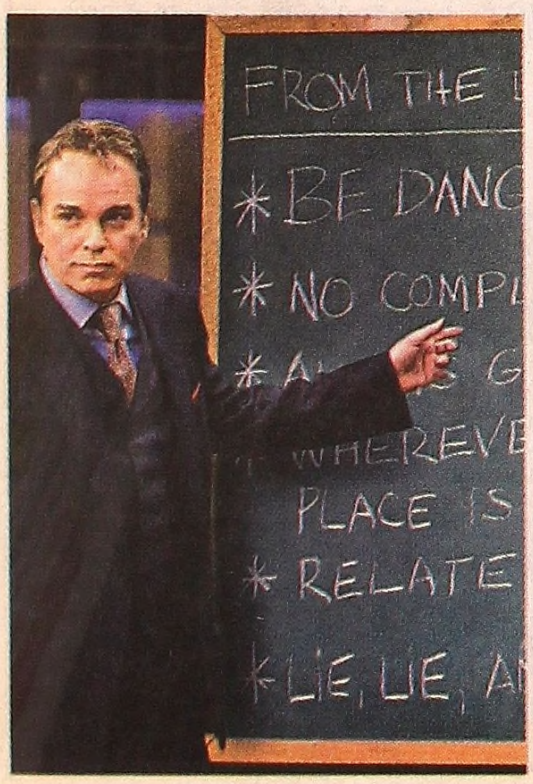
Last week, Heder had his chance at his first leading role with a major studio (MGM) with the release of the mildly amusing *School for Scoundrels*.

You'd think Scoundrels would be top-notch with the modern day king of slacker films, Todd Phillips, at the helm. Phillips brought moviegoers a rare comedic treat (rare, meaning it was actually funny) with the hilarious *Old School*.

However, there are two reasons Scoundrels isn't great.

One, it's a remake. And we all should know by now that remakes are rarely as good or as funny as the original. Just look at *The Pink Panther*. Scoundrels is a loose adaptation of the 1960 British romp with a similar name. Phillips, also a writer on *Scoundrels*, along with Scot Armstrong and Steven Potter cite the book "Gamesmanship: The Art of Winning Games without Actually Cheating" as source material for the project.

Secondly, the script pits Heder's low-key likable loser comedic style against Billy Bob Thornton's more aggressive nature that we saw in *Bad Santa* and *The Bad News Bears* (also a remake and not as funny as the original). It sounds good on paper, but the completely different styles butt heads for audiences' attention rather than complement each other for the audiences' sake. Isn't it the audience that's important?



Heder trades in his moon boots for standard issue New Balance sneakers and his love for the liger, a half lion and half tiger beast—Napoleon's favorite made-up animal—to find the 'lion within' in order to find love in Scoundrels.

The first part of the film is actually depressing as we see Heder's character, Roger's, life fall apart. Roger is a beleaguered New York meter maid plagued with panic attacks and low self-esteem. He gets stripped of more than just his pride by two thugs, harassed by coworkers and is dumped by his little brother in the Big Brother program he volunteers in. Roger, at the end of his rope, gets a number from a friend for a top-secret confidence-building class taught by conniving Dr. P (Thornton) and his merciless assistant, Lesher (Michael Clark Duncan).

Dr. P uses unorthodox, sometimes dangerous and oft participant-humiliating methods designed more for his own pleasure than his students' benefit. Yet he promises results as he teaches them how to unleash their inner lion.

Roger sputters and faints his way to the head of the class and even gains enough confidence to ask out Amanda (Jacinda Barrett), the beautiful girl in the apartment at the end of the hall. However, Roger's quick success in the classroom shifts Dr. P's competitive side into high gear as he vies for Amanda's attention in the field.

The film quickly turns into a funny yet ruthless game of cat and mouse—or lion and loser—as the two compete for Amanda's love.

The supporting cast is actually pretty good. Even Horatio Sanz, who plays Diego—another student in the class—manages to keep a straight face and deliver his lines unlike his performances on *Saturday Night Live*. Barrett also offers a decent performance, escaping MTV's *Real World* stigma for an authentic acting career (she also starred opposite Zach Braph in last month's *Last Kiss*).

Scoundrels has similar tones to Jack Nicholson and Adam Sandler's *Anger Management* but with less favorable results. Lines like Roger's "Amanda, I totally love you," don't help the film's case. Not even Ben Stiller's bit part as a former Dr. P student bent on revenge can help lift *Scoundrels* above mediocre levels.

Although there's no crazy dance routine to help a classmate get elected class president, Heder still gets my vote. I haven't loss faith but I do have to recommend audiences wait for something better from him. *School for Scoundrels* isn't it.

The Scene

New comedy club opens

Scott Spielman
Editor

There's a new act in town.

The martini bar at 336 S. Main in downtown Plymouth started hosting comedy shows this week with an open mic night on Tuesday and regular shows on Wednesday and Thursday.

The shows take place in the basement of the bar on Main Street—336 ½—the funny half, that is.

"It was such a great little space and it was being wasted, said Jim Courtney, a Plymouth Realtor who supported the concept.

"I was not even aware there was a downstairs at 336," agreed Conniee Ettinger, a comic who coordinates the open mic nights.

Courtney helped bring comedy to Plymouth before; he helped organize the comedy nights at the Penn Theatre and knew the success there would translate across Main Street.

"We had some nights where we had 300 people there," he said of the Penn comedy nights. "There's people around that want to see some comedy."

The lower level of the martini bar lends itself to that kind of activity, according to Ettinger. Small and intimate, it conjures up scenes of smoky rooms where locals could share the spotlight with headliners.

"It's very intimate," she said. "It's important to be able to involve the audience."

The doors open at 8 p.m. and the shows get under way at about 8:30. On Tuesdays, almost anyone can take their shot at comic fame with the open mic night. Ettinger, the self-proclaimed 'misstress of the open mic' will run that show, which will feature seven or eight different comics.

"It will be a nice mix of talent," said Ettinger, who knows all of the performers. "They all have different energy levels and styles."

In subsequent weeks, those who want to try their hand can email a request for stage time at OpenMic336@aol.com. As long as requests include a name and phone number, she said she'll get back to everyone and she plans shows for the next week and beyond.

"I'm trying to give everybody a chance," she said. "We may not be able to fit someone in on the next week, but if they have patience in the end they'll get their chance."

Wednesday and Thursday are reserved for regional and national acts.

"We're drawing our comedians from throughout the country and everyone should expect a top flight show each and every week," Ettinger said.

"We've already got a bunch booked," added Courtney. "The shows are already booked through November."

This week Steve Iott of Sturgis takes the headline spot. Ettinger will open for him and Courtney will assume his regular role of house emcee. He said he's more comfortable in that role.

"That way I don't have to be funny," he said. "If I get lucky, I get lucky."

Tickets for the open mic nights are $5. Wednesday and Thursday shows are $8. Anyone interested is advised to show up early, though—the lower level can only seat 50 patrons.

"We're hoping it will sell out pretty quickly," Ettinger said.

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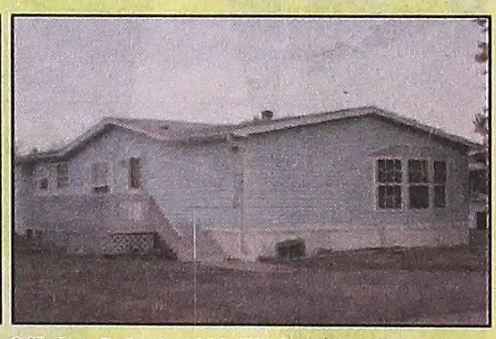
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SPORTS

Manley leads Belleville past Inkster

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

When a coach singles out an opposing player and credits her for a loss, it usually means two things:

One, the player earned the respect of the coach.

And two, the player did her job.

Belleville's senior guard Taylor Manley did both last Thursday. She led her fellow Lady Tigers in a 52-39 victory over Mega Red rival Inkster, earning the respect of Coach Peggy Carr.

"We didn't stop Taylor (Manley)," Carr said of her Lady Vikings "We let her take over the game. We knew about her and knew we had to stop her in the backcourt and we didn't do that. She's dangerous when she's open in the backcourt. We can't let one player control a game like that."

Control she did.

Manley led all scorers with 22. The total included two triples in the first quarter to help her team earn a 13-12 lead at the end of the frame. She opened the second quarter with two more triples to help extend Belleville's lead to 20-14.

"She can do that," said Belleville Coach Kevin Edwards of Manley's outside game. "I told her these were the shots that she had to knock down."

Manley also hit two from the charity stripe to boost her total to 15 at halftime and to help the Lady Tigers to a 28-23 lead after 16 minutes.

The second half turned into a ball-control game as Belleville ran time off the clock. Sophomore Mariah Gordon opened the third with a three-pointer and Manley converted a three-point play when she made a shot, was fouled, and nailed the ensuing free throw.

Belleville's defense did its job, too. Inkster put up just six points in the third period. All-state guard Lonnie Terrell knocked down all of those. She finished with 17 on the night, which lead the Lady Vikings.

> *We just picked up our defense. That's all it was. The girls just played hard. The first 16 minutes I told them that we practice harder than this, let me see you go out there and play lock-up all game. And they did it.*

The Lady Tigers increased their lead to 37-29 after three quarters.

"We just picked up our defense," Edwards said. "That's all it was. The girls just played hard. The first 16 minutes I told them that we practice harder than this, let me see you go out there and play lock-up all game. And they did it."

Manley's counterpart, the equally talented senior guard Danica Holmes, scored six of the team's 15 fourth-quarter points. She had 12 on the night.

"Danica and Taylor have been varsity for four years and are probably two of the best," Edwards said. "They play well together. I've never had two guards like those two."

Manley couldn't be happier with the outcome.

"I think Inkster expected us to be intimidated and I'm not going to lie because some of the girls were," Manley said.

"I think, once they got the feel of it they did real good. This was our first time beating Inkster and I was ready, being my senior year. I think this will boost our confidence a lot. Everybody played good and I'm real proud of our team."

Belleville improved to 7-1 overall and 2-0 in the Red. Belleville hosts Taylor Truman on Thursday and Romulus next Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Inkster fell to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the Red.

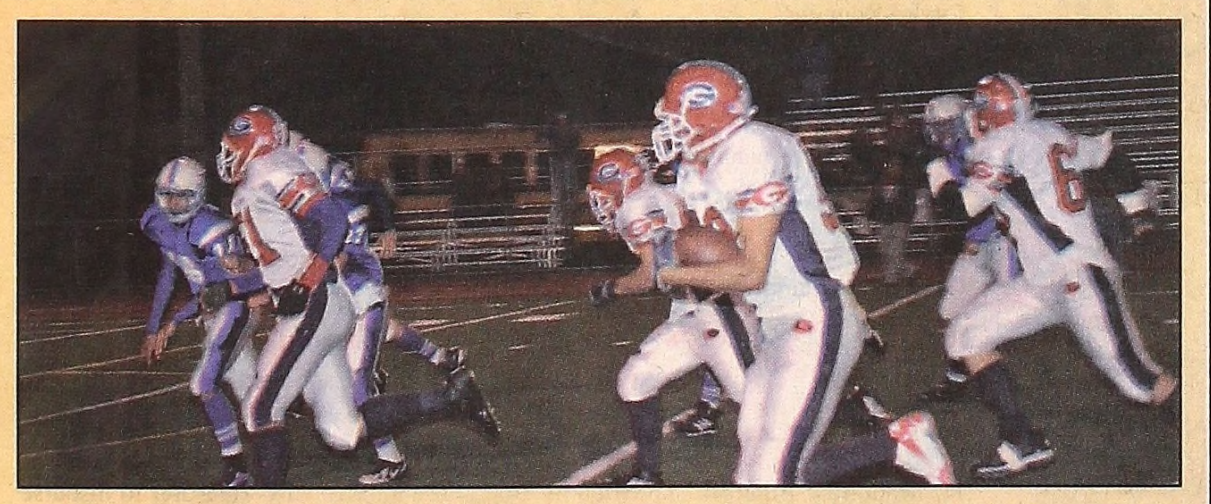
Carr said they have to go back to the basics.

"We have to bring in some offense to get Lonnie open," she said. "I think she's trying to create too much and taking hard shots. She's our leading scorer, but we have to get her easy shots.

"Our defense wasn't there tonight," she added. "Everything we tried to adjust or do we just didn't do. We've been up and down defensively. When we play good defense we win games when we don't we don't win the game. We have to come together more as a team on defense—whatever we call we have to run it."

The Lady Vikes head to Wyandotte on Thursday and host Garden City next Tuesday. Both games are scheduled for 7 p.m.

Belleville senior guard scored 22 points to lead the Lady Tigers past Inkster, 52-39, last Thursday night at home.



Rockets crumble Rocks' homecoming

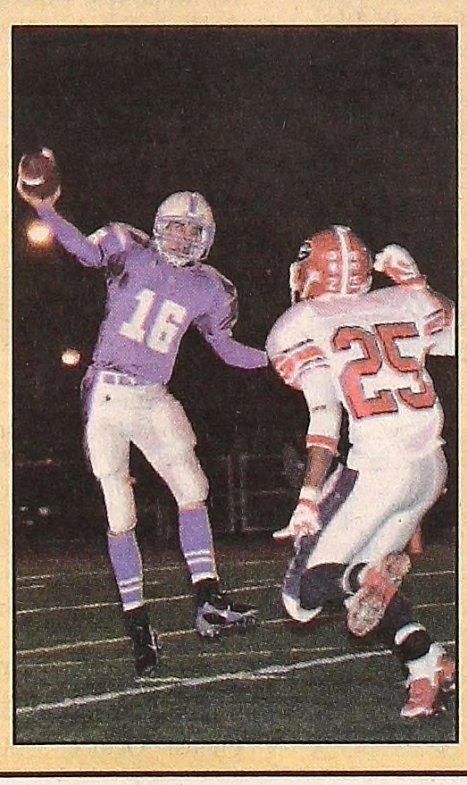
By the time Salem announced Andrea Spohn and J.P. Truesdell as this year's homecoming queen and king at half time of the football game, the John Glenn Rockets led the Rocks, 34-0.

Glenn would score once more before the night was over to spoil Salem's homecoming, 41-0.

Glenn's Jerry Smith intercepted a pass on Salem's third play of the opening drive and returned it 71 yards to start the scoring. Ian Thornton (right) caught a 57-yard touchdown pass from Kyle Acuna and returned a punt 65 yards for a score. Keshawn Martin and Antonio Smith also had touchdown runs in the Rockets' win.

Salem's had a tough time generating any offense against the Rockets, who are fighting for a playoff spot. At 3-3, Glenn has to win its last three games against Walled Lake Northern, a yet undetermined Western-Lakes crossover game and Wayne to earn six wins and a playoff opportunity.

Salem, 0-6, is still looking for its first win. The Rocks still have to face Stevenson, a crossover match and the undefeated, 6-0, Canton Chiefs.



Western too much for Plymouth gridders

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The roller coaster ride of a season continued for the Plymouth Wildcats' football team last week.

The team fell to 2-4 on the year when the Walled Lake Western Warriors overpowered them 30-10 in the early game of a doubleheader at home on Friday. Western improved to 4-2.

Salem (0-6) lost to John Glenn (3-3), 41-0, in the late bout—the Rocks' homecoming game.

The loss will make it difficult for the Wildcats to see a post season. The magic number for a playoff birth is six wins and there are only three games left in the regular season. The best Plymouth could hope for is a 5-4 overall record. There's still hope—several teams made the playoffs with a 5-4 record last year.

"(Playoffs) are out of our hands," said Plymouth Coach Jay Blaylock. "Our destiny is in other teams' hands right now. If we finish 5-and-4 with the schedule we have, we have a great chance. We're not eliminated but our backs are against the wall and we have to fight for it."

Plymouth is at Wayne this week; has an undetermined crossover game for their homecoming next week; and are at Mt. Pleasant on Oct. 20 for the season finale before anything is a lock.

Western's open offense gave the Wildcats trouble as the Warriors took a 14-3 lead at the half.

Plymouth had a punt blocked on its second drive of the game. Western recovered on the Wildcats' 19. Three plays later Matt Woxny plunged in from one yard out to give the Warriors a 7-0 lead.

The Wildcats' Jeff Lucco capped off a 10-play drive on Plymouth's next possession with a 21-yard field goal to make it a 7-3 game with 7:15 left in the second quarter.

Western was quick to retaliate. Wozny rushed 78 yards on two plays—the second being a tricky reverse—to get his

See **Plymouth,** page 12

One more game!

Romulus wins 5th game, on the verge of playoff berth

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Excitement continues to grow with every win for the Romulus Eagle football team.

The Eagles recently beat the River Rouge Panthers, 34-12, for a homecoming victory that improved their record to 5-1—one game away from securing a playoff spot.

Romulus was off and running on the legs of junior phenom Mario Crawford early on and often. Crawford routed the Rouge defense for 218 yards on just eight carries—an exceptional 27.3 yards per carry—and four touchdowns.

His first score came three plays after Shane Wells recovered the team's opening kickoff that took a funny bounce away from the Rouge return team, according to Romulus Coach Matt Ladach. Crawford ran the score in from four yards out. Senior Cedric Smith's point-after was good for a 7-0 lead.

Romulus's pass defense by Wells and Jeff Williams forced a Panthers turnover on downs at the Eagles' 37. It only took Romulus three plays to score. Crawford scurried the final 54 yards. Smith's kick was good and the Eagles took a 14-0 lead with 3:44 left in the first.

Crawford scored his third touchdown when he outran Rouges' defense on a sweep around the left end for a 73-yard run at 2:19 of the second. That made it 21-6. He scored the team's fourth touchdown with a 61-yard run on Romulus' first possession of the second half. Smith's extra-point attempt went wide but Romulus amassed a 27-6 lead.

That would be the night for Crawford.

After Justin Price and JuJuan Whitlow teamed up to block a Rouge punt, Rod Walker carried the rock four times for 32 yards to set up Mathews one-yard touchdown at 7:43 of the third. Smith split the uprights for a 34-6 advantage.

See **Eagles,** page 11

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TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE: THE BEGINNING (R) 12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25 FRI/SAT LS 11:35
SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS (PG-13) 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00 FRI/SAT LS 11:10
OPEN SEASON (PG) (11:05) 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05 FRI/SAT LS 11:05
THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 2006 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tern Randolph Gear.
Present: John Barden, Ellen Craig-Bragg, LeRoy Burcroff, Harry Crout, William Crova, Randolph Gear, William Wadsworth.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Bragg to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-317

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Barden to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held September 5, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Abstain: Crout.
Motion Carried.

06-318

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Wadsworth to concur with the request of the petitioner, Steven T, Stokfisz, PC 2006-025, and introduce an ordinance to amend the official zoning map of the City of Romulus by rezoning .015 acres of land on the west side of Wayne Road, north of Bibbins, DP # 82-80-077-08-0031-001, and the easterly 20 feet of DP # 82-80-077-08-0022-000, from RIB (Single Family Residential) to O-1 (Office District), consistent with the Planning Consultants letter dated July 25, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Barden, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-319

5A. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation of Assistant City Attorney, Raymond Guzall and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement between the City of Romulus and the American Society of Composers (ASCAP) for all City functions where the City will play live or mechanical music. Said agreement would be for one year, commencing September 1, 2006 in the amount of $280.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-320

6A1. Motion by Crova, supported by Crout to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendments 06/07-9, 06/07-10 and 06/07-11, introduced at the Regular City Council Meeting held September 5, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-321

6A2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Barden to concur with the Administration and schedule a Study Session on Monday, September 25, 2006, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing proposed crack seal and joint seal maintenance project in the City of Romulus.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A3. No Action Taken.

06-322

6A4. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Crout to grant a no-fee permit to the senior Center for a rummage sale to be held on September 22 and 23, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

06-323

11. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Bragg to authorize City Treasurer to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 06-17 in the total amount of Five Hundred Seventy Six Thousand, Seven Hundred Sixty Dollars and Eighty -Three Cents ($576,760.83).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Abstain - Crova.
Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Barden, Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Crova, Gear, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.
Respectfully submitted,
Linda R. Choate, Clerk City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held September 11, 2006.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: October 5, 2006

Romulus tops Wyandotte

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Romulus' first conference game could prove to be the most important one of the season.

The bout with Mega Red opponent Wyandotte on Thursday proved to Romulus Coach Candice Finley that her team can come through in tough games. It took two overtime sessions, but the Romulus Lady Eagles pulled out a 59-58 victory.

"They fought the whole way and that was a good thing for us," Finley said. "They were determined and refused to lose the game. It was stressful as a coach, too. But we got through it."

Junior point guard Christina Barnett sank both of her free throws to put Romulus up, 59-58, with 30 seconds left to play in the second overtime period. From then on, the defense held off Wyandotte for the win.

Barnett finished with 18 points. Senior guard Erika Wasson also knocked down 18 while senior center Alysa Long added 14 and nabbed 20 rebounds.

At one point, Finley looked up at the scoreboard to see her Eagles trailing 20-6 and fear settled in.

"I just thought, we can't start the Mega like this," she said. "Wyandotte came out ready to play and we weren't playing any defense."

Things turned around and, before Finley realized it, junior guard Jasmine Brown missed a layup but Long was there for the rebound and buzzer-beating putback to send the game into its first overtime. Romulus led at the end of the extra period but Wyandotte knocked down a 15-footer at the buzzer to set stage for the second overtime bout.

Chelsea Stover scored 17 and had 10 rebounds for Wyandotte.

The win moved Romulus up to 4-3 overall and 1-0 in the Mega Red.

Tuesday's match against Ann Arbor Huron didn't go as well.

The River Rats scored 19 points in the second and third quarters to help them take a 65-50 win.

"Huron is just as quick as we are and very athletic and they were ready," Finley said. "We had our runs but we didn't stop theirs."

Tyler Harding scored 23 points for Huron.

Long was a force on the boards again with 21 rebounds for Romulus to go with her team-leading 13 points.

The Lady Eagles have a tough stretch of road ahead of them. After they hosted Inkster on Tuesday (see results at www.journalgroup.com or next week's edition) they host Monroe at 7 p.m. today before heading to Belleville at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.

Eagles

FROM PAGE 10

"This was a fun game for our team," Ladach said. "We had a good homecoming crowd, and we appreciate their backing. We are all very happy with the support the community has shown our football program. Hopefully, we can continue to represent Romulus in a positive way."

Senior lineman Joe Kiesznowski led the defense with 10 tackles. Sophomore Carlos Sims had nine.

Rouge scored on three-yard run by Aaron Cook at 8:42 of the second and on a four-yard run by Damion Rice with 3:09 left in the game for the Panthers' 12 points.

Romulus still needs one more win to make it to the playoffs without help. The last three games will be tough for the Eagles. They have an undefeated Highland Park on the road at 4 p.m. tomorrow. There, Romulus will get healthy dose of Anthony Jones on the Jet sweep and fullback action from Marcel Dubose and Darius Johnson, according to Ladach.

"Friday's game will tell us a lot," he said. "Highland Park is the fastest team we will play this year. Their overall team speed and athleticism on defense is equally impressive. The stakes are high. A win will clinch a share of the Mega Blue title."

After that they will host an impressive Inkster team at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13 and a difficult

Mario Crawford (3) raced by rushed for 218 yards on eight carries to lead the Eagles to a, 34-12, homecoming victory on Friday. Photo by Ken Garner

Birmingham Country Day at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 20.

All they need is one, but that's not how Ladach looks at it.

"After the game the kids started chanting: 'one more game, one more game,'" Ladach said. "I told them that I don't want them to be satisfied with just wining one more. We have three games left and I want them to compete in all of them and try to win all of them."

Belleville Scores

Bellville falls to Trenton, 32-14

Early mistakes put Belleville in a whole for the second straight week that led to a 32-14 loss to Trenton on Friday night.

Trenton scored two touchdowns for a 15-0 in the first quarter. Belleville bounced back with a 16-yard scoring run by Waseem El Awadi in the second quarter to make it 15-6. At the end of the half Belleville fumbled a snap and Trent recovered in the end zone to take a 22-6 lead. The tigers wouldn't score again until about the 3:30 mark of the fourth when Phil Sullens connected with Ken Jones for a 17-yard touchdown pass.

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Sports

Canton blasts Plymouth, Wayne

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Lady Chief hoopsters averaged almost 55 points a game last week to knock off rivals Plymouth and a struggling Wayne team.

More impressively, Canton's defense limited both opponents to less than 30 points.

On Thursday, Canton beat the Wayne Lady Zebras by a 30-point margin. Wayne scored 13 of its 29 points in the fourth against Canton's bench.

"Coming into the game I thought if we ran the floor well we could got some good shots," said Canton Coach Brian Samulski. "We did a great job getting the ball inside to (Baylee) Hollowell and then she did a great job getting the ball back outside to (Becci) Houdek or (Ja'nee) Morton."

The plan worked as Samulski's team racked up 17 points in the first quarter and 15 in the second. A solid defense held the Lady Zebras to five and seven. Canton scored 27 more points in the second half while holding Wayne to 17—four in the third.

Three Lady Chiefs hit double figures. Houdek scored 15 to lead the team and had nine assists and seven steals. Hollowell added 12 points and secured nine rebounds and Morton knocked down 10 and grabbed five rebounds.

Canton saw the same success at home against cross-campus rival Plymouth last Tuesday.

Another quick start and solid defense helped the Lady Chiefs to a 50-21 victory.

Samulski knew he had to shut down Plymouth's outside game.

"Plymouth is an athletic team that shoots the three well and gets to the rim well," he said. "We didn't want them to get inside and we had to contest their threes. From there it was a matter of lock out and rebound."

The Lady Chiefs held the Wildcats to single digits through the first three quarters. They blanked them in the fourth.

The offense got the job done, scoring 20 points in the opening eight minutes.

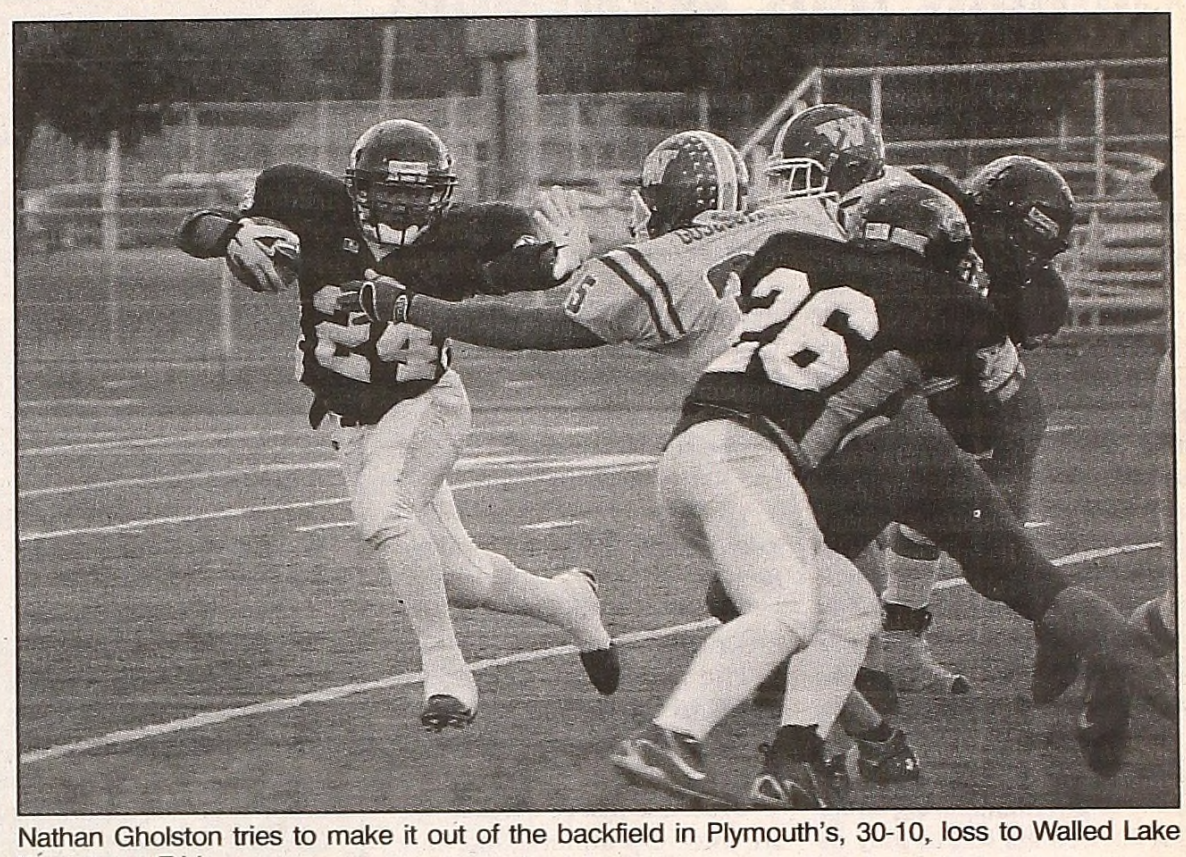
Samulski said his three senior starters really stepped up.

Morton (6), Houdek (6) and Lauren Delapaz (4) combined for 16 of the team's 20 points in the first quarter. That helped Canton to a 31-13 halftime lead.

Houdek finished the night with 17 points. Morton added 10. "The kids were patient and waited," Samulski, said. "They moved the ball well and made some great shots."

"This is a real unselfish group," he added. "The leading scorers don't care if they score or not as long as they win.

Canton hosts Franklin at 7 p.m. tonight and head to Northville at 7 p.m. on Tuesday.



Nathan Gholston tries to make it out of the backfield in Plymouth's, 30-10, loss to Walled Lake Western on Friday.

Plymouth

FROM PAGE 9

Warriors to Plymouth's 1-yard line. Then he punched in the score, making it a 14-3 game.

Ken Loney extended the lead, 21-3, in the third when he lunged in from two yards out with 3:58 left in the quarter.

Plymouth got back in the game when Chris Gregory hit Kulraj Sandhu for a 41-yard TD. Lucco nailed the extra point cutting into the Warriors lead, 21-10.

Western added a field goal at the 8:13 mark of the fourth and capped off the scoring when Edison Vushaj made an interception and returned it 59 yards for a touchdown.

"They have great speed and if you over commit one way they can hit you another," Blaylock said. "I noticed that a lot on the counter tonight. Our defense stepped up in the second half and played a lot better. I saw guys making plays all over the place."

Plymouth heads to Wayne tomorrow for the Zebras' homecoming. The Wildcats will have to be leery of the Freeman twins—David and Allan—who have wreaked havoc on defense all year.

"They're athletic and fast and throw the ball around a little more and try to spread you out," Blaylock said of Wayne, "but I think we can match up well with them."

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. at Wayne Memorial High.

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&

KEVIN McNAMARA
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Please join us in electing Mark Slavens, Democrat, as Michigan Senator of the 7th District.

Kevin McNamara has 20 Years of experience handling problems for citizens and organizations seeking help, information, and assistance from Wayne County Government, including finding federal funding to improve our sidewalks and walkways to keep children safe on their way to and from school. Kevin has experience with our county road maintenance system, sewer system, and water plants and served as SEMCOG delegate with environmental emergency response experience for spills on land, road , and freeways and is dedicated to keeping our communities safe and improving our infrastructure.

Please join us in election Kevin McNamara Democrat, as Wayne County Commissioner.

Jennifer Grandholm Governor, John Cherry Lt. Governor, Debbie Stabenow U.S. Senate John Dingell U.S. Congress 15th District, Tony Tripiano U.S. Congress 11th District, Amos Williams Attorney General, Secretary of State Carmella Sabaugh, Mark Slavens Mich.Senate 7th District Kathleen Law Mich. House of Rep. 23rd District, Robert Ficano for Wayne County Executive, Kevin McNamara for Wayne County Commissioner, duel endorsement for Probate Judge Daniel Hathaway & Frank Szmanski, Tina Brooks Green 34th District Judge and Leanne Clair Van Buren Twp. Trustee.

Paid for by the Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club, P.O. Box 1182, Belleville, MI 48112. Phone: 734-218-0605

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots
05. Personals/Announcements
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
30. Help Wanted
31. Help Wanted Sales
32. Help Wanted Drivers
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Health and Fitness
43. Money to Loan
44. Music/Art Lessons
45. Adult Care
46. Private Schools/Instruction
47. Riding/Horses/Stables
50. Pets & Supplies
54. Rummage Sales
55. Estate Sales
56. Flea Markets
57. Antiques
58. Garage and Yard Sales
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business and OfficeEquipment
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
65. Tree Service
66. Landscape / Nurseries
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Masonry / Brickwork
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Remodeling & Renovations
77. Recreation Vehicles
78. Hunting / Fishing
82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Real Estate
96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent
98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Flats for Rent
100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business Property for Sale
104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
105. Mobile Homes for Sale
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale
108. Lake and Resort
109. Income Property
110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property
112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

30. Help Wanted

Aerosol Line Mechanic
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*Extensive knowledge in both aerosol and liquid packaging equipment,
*Exp. with Terco filling and gassing equipment, conveyors, water bath, automatic cappers, tippers, case packers, labelers and case sealers,
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34. Specialized Services

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42. Health and Fitness

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50. Pets & Supplies

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55. Estate Sales

ESTATE SALE
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10:00am - 4:00pm

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---

ESTATE SALE
29237 Leroy, Romulus
(off Middlebelt)
Oct. 7 & 8
8am - 4pm
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Everything must go!

58. Garage and Yard Sales

3-Family Garage Sale
39302 Worchester
Westland
S. of Cherry Hill
W. of Hix
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Furniture, tools, clothes and much more

HUGE Garage Sale
37285 Thinbark
Wayne
Oct. 7 & 8
9am - 4pm

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No Junk

59. Auctions

MR. STOR-IT
5235 S. Merriman Rd.
Westland, MI 48186
734-721-4670

Auction Date:
Sat., October 21, 2006
11:00 AM

Cash & Credit cards only, NO CHECKS

Unit 117-Omar F. Ricks: Bed, boxes, furniture, vacuum, misc.

Unit 133-Felisa Edwards: Totes, Fan, stroller, misc.

Unit 351-Complete Fencing, Inc.: Plastic fencing

Unit 352-Heidi Voorhies: Boat motor, wood, siding, insulation

Unit 457-Ladina Zirker: Bed, bike, boxes, furniture, 2 TVs, washer, air conditioner, misc.

Y310-Lewis Rafter Jr.: 1974 Chevrolet PU

Y568-Final Touch Home Improvement: Chevy Step Van
Y825-Mark Badder: 1991 Dodge Pick-up
Y826-James-John Ostrowski: 1986 Chrysler 5th Ave.
Y849-Frank Schenk: 1966 Olds 2-Door
Y900-Stacy Moore: 1971 GMC Sunline

NOTICE is hereby given that on 10/19/06 at 1:30pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at The Storroom Self Storage, 40600 Michigan Avenue, Canton, MI:
Space #1301-Kenneth Rose: TV/electronics, hshld. furnishings, boxes/bags, hand tools, recreation equip., other misc. items, tires, truck-bed toolchest; Space #1008B-Wanna Johnson: Other misc. items, boxes/bags; Space #522-Jamine Wardlaw: Hshld. appliances, TV/electronics, hshld. furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, office equip.; Space #531-Ruthanne Tackett: Hshld. furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, recreation equip.; Space #937-Carley Brunty: Misc. small appliances, hshld. furnishings, boxes/bags, other misc. items; Space #740-Travis Massey: TV/electronics, hshld. furnishings, exercise equip.

30. Help Wanted

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Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)
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29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833

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Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30P.M.
Pastor Earl Duncan
Morningstar Church
28563 Pardo
Garden City, MI 48135
734-367-3029

30. Help Wanted

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248-465-7700
www.mytuopiasalon.com

NOTICE is hereby given that on 10/18/06 at 1:00pm, the following will be sold by competitive bidding at Stor-N-Lock, 7840 N. Wayne Road, Westland, MI:
G-26-Billie Jo Henry: Misc. small appliances, hshld. furnishings, hshld. goods, boxes/bags, toys, recreation equip., other misc. items; L-10-Samuel C. Quick: hshld.. appliances, boxes/bags, hand tools, other misc. items; H-2E-Frederick Campbell: Hshld. appliances, misc. small appliances, TV/electronics, hshld. goods, boxes/bags, recreation equip., other misc. items; E-21-Rodney H. Geter: TV/electronics, hshld. furnishings, boxes/bags, office equip., other misc. items; H-12-Mark Coleman: TV/electronics, hshld. furnishings, hshld. goods, boxes/bags, recreation equip., office equip., other misc. items

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Notice of Public Sale On Oct. 19, 2006 at 12:30pm, U-Store-It 401, 28266 Ecorse Road, Romulus, MI 48174 with reserve, will sell by the unit to the highest bidder by CASH all rights, title and interest to the following property:

D26, Leigh Lang: furniture, beds, bags, boxes; D82, Shannita Underwood: clothing, speakers, bedding, misc.; D86, Vincent Lizell Oliver: bags, boxes, keyboard, misc.; D96, Perry Lolowang: boxes, suitcases, stool, tv.

On October 14th, 2006, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:00am, at J&T Towing and Storage, 237 Industrial Dr., Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1995 Mercury 4Dr
3MELM6532SM620046
44-592-06

1997 Dodge 4Dr
2B3HD46F7VH535292
44-649-06

1995 Ford 4Dr
1FALP52U7SG242564
44-730-06

1995 Dodge 4Dr
1B3EJ46X4SN617682
44-729-06

1995 Dodge 4Dr
1P3ES27C9SD183907
44-727-06

1999 Chevrolet 4Dr
1G1ND52M1X6161903
44-765-06

1995 Ford PU
1FTDF15Y6SLA74349
44-780-06

1996 Chevrolet ST
1GNDT13WXT2235245
44-840-06

1995 Mercury 4Dr
1MELM6530SK600563
44-841-06

1991 Subaru 4Dr
JF1BC6326MK605611
44-842-06

Upon completion, the auction will move to Great Lakes Towing and Storage, 42350 Van Born Rd., Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

2002 Freightline VA
WD2YD541225296103
44-194-06

1996 Mercury 4Dr
3MELM6535TM603758
44-692-06

1986 Ford PU
1FTBR10A4GUC85947
44-695-06

1992 Ford ST
1FMDU34X1NUD02634
44-705-06

1995 Cadillac 4Dr
1G6KF52Y6SU204310
44-770-06

2003 Ford 4Dr
1FAFP55U33G222810
44-775-06

1996 Chevrolet PU
1GNCT18W0TK103079
44-779-06

1991 Chevrolet 4Dr
1G1BN53E7MW184198
44-838-06

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Public Auto Auction
Oct. 11, 2006, 8AM
Westland Service Towing
300 S. Newburgh
Westland, MI 48186

1977 GMC Motor Home
White
TGR3374512909

1984 Pontiac Fiero
2 Dr-Black
1G2AM37R4EP289059

1971 Mercedes Benz
4 Dr-White
10806712001727

1986 Mercedes Z-3
4 Dr-Blue
WDBDA24D2GF255116

1996 Pontiac Grand Am
4 Dr-Blue
1G2NE52T3TC788856

1993 Ford Probe
2 Dr-Red
1ZVCT20A3P5185096

1992 Ford Tempo
2 Dr-Blue
1FAPP31X5NK191391

1992 Dodge Caravan
Burgundy
1B4GH44R5NX245489

Note: Vehicles are Canton impounds

Public Auto Auction
Oct. 10, 2006, 10 AM
Westland Service Towing
300 S. Newburgh
Westland, MI 48186

2001 Pontiac
2 Dr-Silver
1G2JB124X17342282

1991 Ford Tempo
4Dr-Red
2FAPP35X5MB128200

2000 Ford Explorer
SW-Burgundy
1FMZU72X9YZA61073

1995 Lincoln Continental
4 Dr-Green
1LNLM97V9SY688118

Note: Vehicles are Westland impounds

61. Misc. Items

NEW Queen Size Orthopedic Pillow Top Mattress and Box Set. Brand New in plastic with full manufacturer warranty. Can deliver. ONLY $95.00 (734) 326-2744

KING Size Orthopedic Mattress and Split Box Set. Brand "NEW" in plastic with full factory warranty. Delivery Available. Sacrifice $170.00 (734) 721-3799

FULL Size Orthopedic 2 Piece Mattress Set. All "NEW" in plastic with manufacturer warranty. $80.00 (734) 637-2012

SOFA & LOVESEAT
Micro-Fiber/Beige
Life-Time warranty on frame and fabric warranty.
NEW in crate.
Delivery Available.
Sacrifice for ONLY $495.00
(734) 721-3799

8-Piece Cherry Bedroom Suite
Headboard, 1 night stand, frame, dresser, mirror and chest, Orthopedic mattress & box spring set
Sacrifice $650
Delivery available
734-637-2012

---

1 set 2pc Queen Pillow Top
New in plastic
Sacrifice $100
Can deliver
734-891-8481

---

1 set 3pc King Pillow Top Mattress
New in plastic
Sacrifice $180
734-891-8481

Blue Water Value Passbook
Own the book that saves you cash while helping local charities
Visit: jupitorenterprises.com for details

Cherry Sleigh bed & Pillow Top Mattress
New boxed
Retail $1K
Only $395
734-891-8481

Full size mattress set. "New" Still in wrapper w/warranty
Sacrifice $90
734-891-8481

Women's Black Rabbit Fur Jacket-Large
New $300
313-995-6753

76. Remodeling & Renovation

Conan Construction LLC
Comm. & Residential
Complete Roofing
Concrete Work
Excavating-Footings
Foundations-Garages
Additions-Patios
Drywall
LOW LOW RATES
Licensed and Insured
Over 30 yrs. exp.
Office 734-461-0697
Cell 734-516-6000

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. Call 734-721-1220
Tel-96 Inn
313-535-4100
Fairlane in Novi
248-347-9999
Days Inn/Sunrise Motel
734-427-1300

BELLEVILLE
Attn. commuter pilots and flight attendants
Room for rent in Belleville
Non-smoker
7 min. to airport
Private entrance
Private BA & BR
Cable TV
Utilities inc.
Kitchen privileges
Please call S. Johnson
313-515-2413

ROOM FOR RENT
Wayne
$85/weekly
All utilities included.
Call 734-721-0232.

88. Duplexes For Rent

WESTLAND
2BR Duplexes
900-1,100 sq. ft.
Updated & freshly painted
Sec. 8 welcome
Starting at $525
plus sec. dep.
Full Time Mgt./maint. staff
Call 734-507-9149

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
Call for list of available 2 & 3 BR duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 vouchers welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management.
Norplex Associates
734-722-6444
EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

PLYMOUTH
McCool Apartments
Spacious 1-2 BR Apts.
Heat included
All Appliances
FALL SPECIALS ON 1 BEDROOM APTS.!
Call for details
734-582-9656

WAYNE
4045 Columbus
1 Bedroom apt
$500/Month
Tenant pays Gas/Elec.
NO DEPOSIT!
Call: 734-522-1512

WAYNE
Near Wayne Road Quiet and clean 1BDR. Heat and water inc. Ideal for singles and retirees.
No Pets
$450 moves you in with approved credit
Sec. 8 welcome
313-561-9818
or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI
Quiet 1 Bedroom, well maintained, heat/water/A/C inc., no pets
Great for singles & retirees
$470/month
1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH
Call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or 734-718-9521
or owner @ 734-878-0859

96. Houses For Rent

INKSTER
3 Br. brick ranch
Fenced 4 pets
$680

INKSTER
4 Br., remodeled, garage, Sec. 8 ok
$700

Many Homes Available

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

ROMULUS
3 Br., appliances, fenced
Opt. 2 Buy
$900

BELLEVILLE
3 Br., deck, pets ok
Remodeled
$775

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

WAYNE
Bungalow, garage
Appliances, new carpet
$590

WAYNE
3 Br., Opt. 2 Buy
Pets negotiable

All Cities Available

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS

WESTLAND
3 Br., air, remodeled
Opt. 2 Buy
$720

WESTLAND
3 Br., air,
Fenced 4 pets
Opt. 2 Buy
$795

Several Homes Available

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

Ypsilanti area
3 Bedroom Ranch Fenced Yard, No Pets $925/month.
734-461-9127

99. Flats for Rent

GARDEN CITY
Upper 2-BR Flat
All appliances
Heat & water inc.
Private entrance
Newly renovated
$625/mon. plus dep.
734-516-0500

WESTLAND
Priced to Rent
1 or 2 BR Flats
No Pets
734-459-8268

105. Mobile Homes-Lots

CANTON
Owner financed
2&3 BR Mobile Homes as low as $150/mon. plus lot rental
Call Jim:
313-277-1907

106. Houses For Sale

Novi
22517 Chestnut Tree Way
Spacious Ranch-3BR, 3BA, 2 car garage, large master suite with walk-in closet, formal dining area, family room w/fireplace. Over 1,400 SF, plus additional 1,200 SF finished basement including pool table, built in bar, large rec. area, computer room, extra room and workshop. Includes 2 decks. Walk to great Novi elementary school. Includes clubhouse privileges with Olympic size pool. Motivated seller. Quick move in. Price just reduced to only $229,900.

Contact Carol Copping, Real Estate One, 248-444-8105 or view at:
realestateone.com/copping
Listing No. 26151605

PUBLIC NOTICE
Real Estate Auction
By court, bank or seller order

7123 CURTIS RD, NORTHVILLE
3BR 2BA 1,550sf+ single-family
OPENING BID: $50,000

2016 COBRA CT, CANTON
2BA 1,850sf+ condo
OPENING BID: $50,000

38261 LAURENWOOD DRI, WAYNE
2BA 1,100sf+ single-family
OPENING BID: $25,000

507 FERRIS ST, YPSILANTI
single-family
OPENING BID: $10,000

All properties sell: 5:15pm Mon., Oct. 16 at 7123 CURTIS RD, NORTHVILLE. Inspections 1-4pm Sun. before sale day and 2 hrs before sale time. Properties with $50,000 opening bid are open 1-4pm two Sundays prior to sale. Visit williamsauction.com or call 800-801-8003.

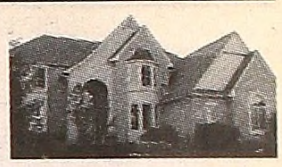
WESTLAND
401 N. Sybald
(N. off Cherry Hill-W. of Newburgh)
734-595-0989

Spacious 3BR Colonial
Built in 1995

2 car attached garage, basement, hardwood floors throughout, family room w/fireplace & built-in shelving
Oversized wooded lot
Large cedar deck
Great Neighborhood!

$205,000

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.



NORTHVILLE TWP.
18657 Clover Hill Ct.

4BR-4.5BA Colonial
4289 sf plus add. 2200sf finished lower level
3 car side-entry garage
Gourmet kitchen w/prem. cherry cabinets
Marble spa w/Euro shower and steamer
Professionally landscaped
Too many extras to list
Must see to appreciate

Recently reduced

$849,500

OPEN HOUSE
Sun., Oct. 8 1-4

110. Lots For Sale

NOVI
Prime Novi location. Northville School District. Wooded, 1 acre estate size home sites for sale. Daylight and walk-out sites available. Choice of site(s) and/or packaged sites available. All utilities. $199,000.
Call (248) 866-5131

114. Auto Accessories

1993 Cadillac turbo trans, 350, RWD, 53K MI
$300 OBO
734-646-5594

121. Autos Wanted

Top $$$ Paid
For Junk, Disabled or Wrecked Cars
Drive it in or we'll pick it up
CTS AUTO PARTS
16007 Pardee, Taylor
(Just North of Wm. F. Sell)

118. Freebies

2 Standard Snow Shovels $5 ea.
Roof Snow Shovel (20 ft. handle) $10
734-455-2689

PortaCrib-Natural wood, deluxe mattress, bumper pads and sheets.
Like new
$75.00
734-721-7158

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Funeral DIRECTORY

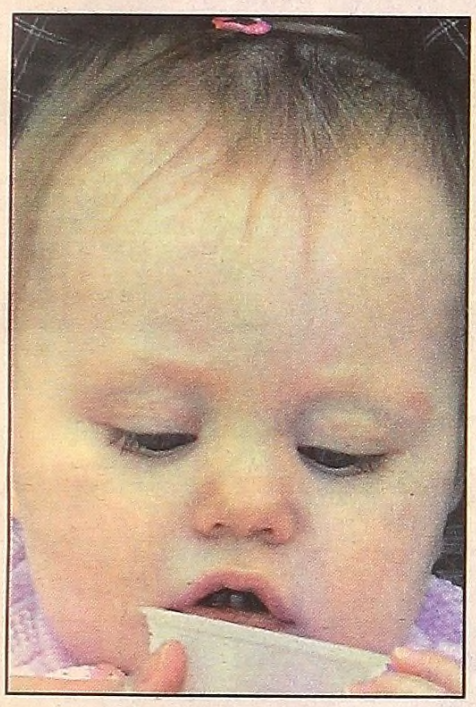
Food

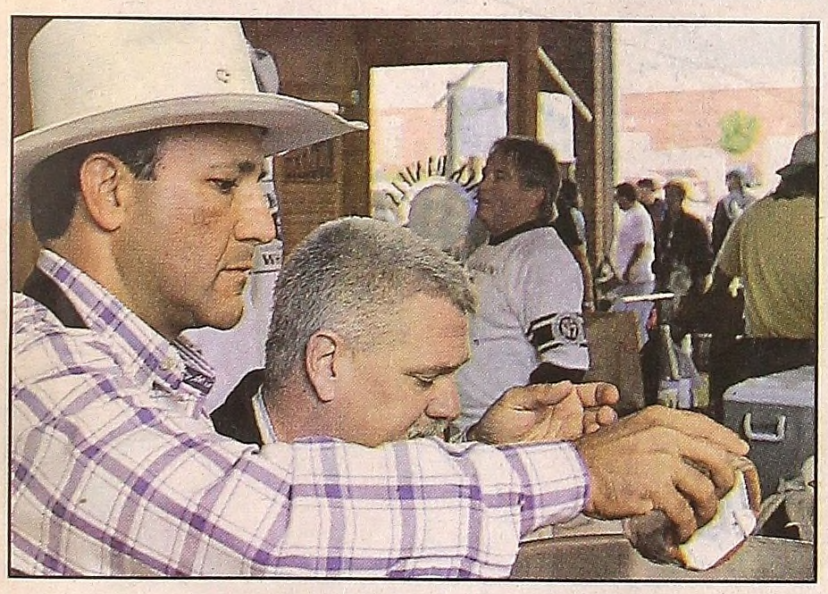
Hot Stuff

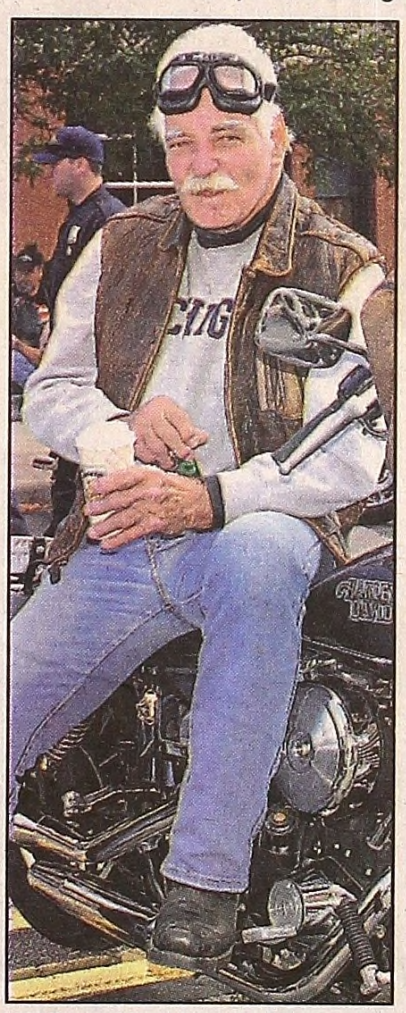
Great Lakes Annual Chili Cook-Off returns to Plymouth

Crowds roared into downtown Plymouth last Sunday to enjoy the Great Lakes Annual Chili Cook Off. The event, which is organized as a charity benefit every year, drew crowds from throughout the area to enjoy the tasty treats. They also come to watch the motorcyclists who shine up their rides and show them off at the charity cook off every year. There was something for everyone, as Amelia Duncan, 11-months-old, and Sadie, the very large dog, demonstrated. Photos by Ken Garner

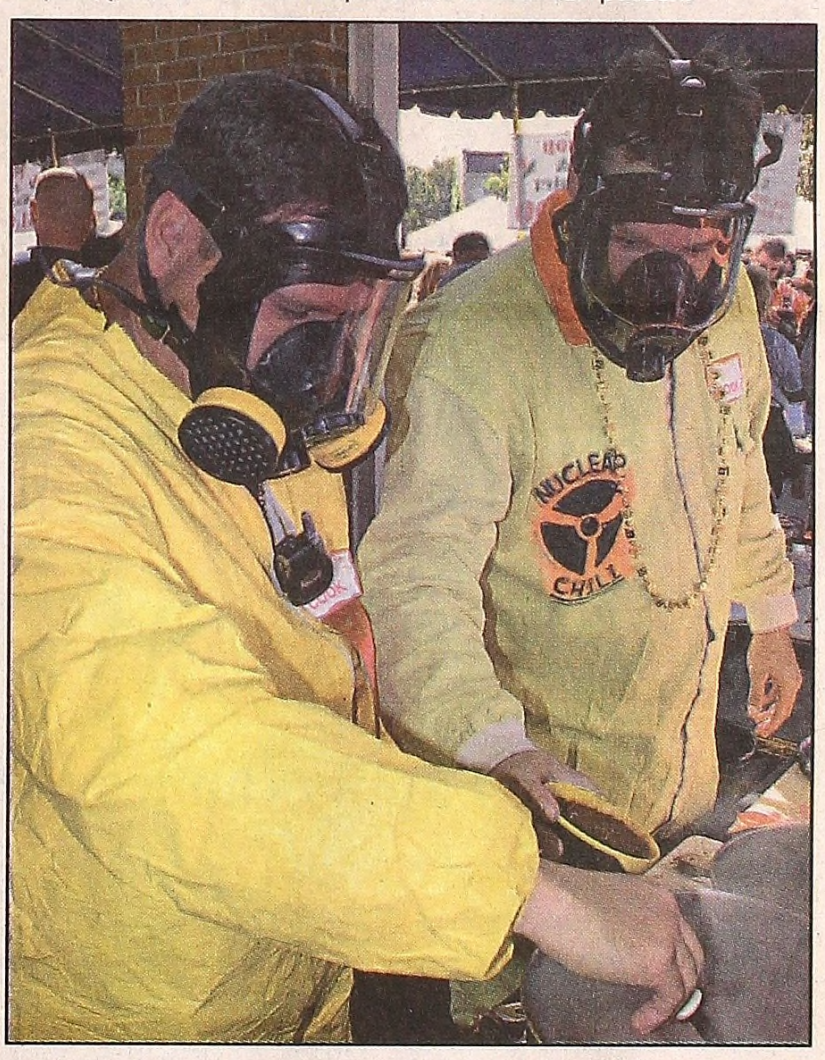
Ed Andreski from Ypsilanti brought his pots, pans and secret recipe for the annual competition.







Wally Knoch of Dearborn enjoyed every sample of chili he managed to taste during the charity event.



Bernie and Jason Yoscorits of the Leo Bak Nuclear Chili Team of Trenton had to gear up to prepare their 'super hot' entry this year.

Mike Buentello and Steve Borgett brought a little bit of Texas with them to the competition and ran out of samples of their special recipe.

Past chili cook off champions were on hand to see what the competition had to offer. Bob Vargo, a seven-time state champion, Georgia Willer, the 1996 national champion, Jim Weller, the 2000 national champion, Jeff Netser, the current champion and Wes Carolson, the 2004 national champion, were all smiles during the event last week.

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Country Walk

Single Family Homes from the $160s

- 1,211-2,772 sq. ft.
- Playgrounds
- Van Buren schools
- 2-3 car garage
- Walking paths
- Easy access to I-94 and I-275

Ideally located in Van Buren Twp.
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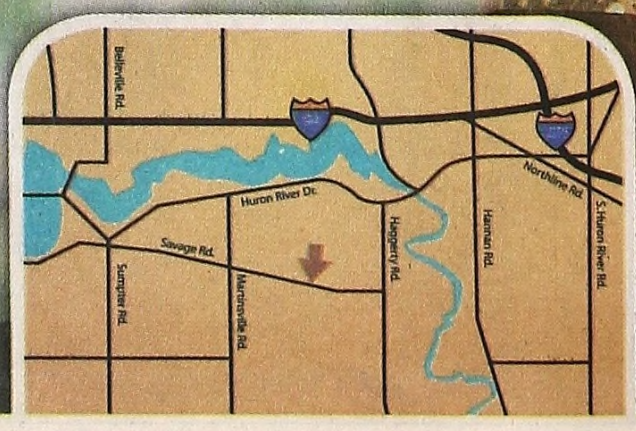

www.crosswinds.com